MARVEL

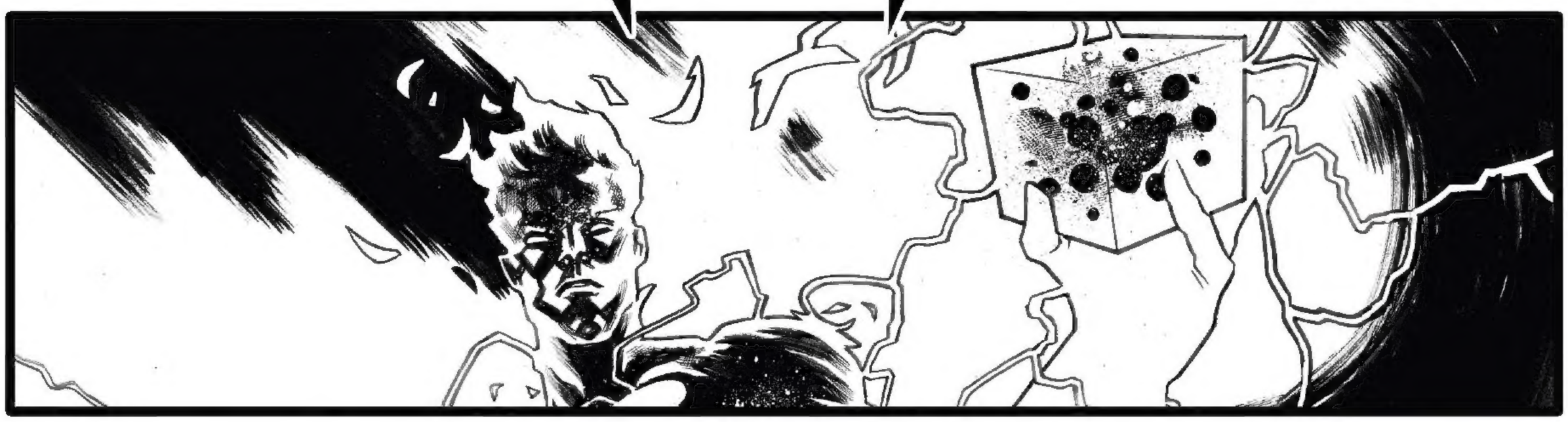
#7

LOVENESS
PÉREZ
HEPBURN
HERRING

NOVA®

DANMORA 17

NOVA



AFTER BEING MURDERED BY THANOS IN A PARALLEL DIMENSION CALLED THE CANCERVERSE, RICHARD RIDER, HERO OF THE INTERGALACTIC NOVA CORPS, HAS MYSTERIOUSLY COME BACK FROM THE DEAD.

RICH CAME BACK TO EARTH AND WAS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT 15-YEAR-OLD SAM ALEXANDER HAS BEEN OPERATING AS NOVA. TOGETHER, SAM AND RICH HAVE BEEN LEARNING HOW TO COEXIST AS NOVAS AND WORK AS A TEAM.

HOWEVER, THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE NOVAS WAS DISRUPTED BY THE REALIZATION THAT RICH'S RESURRECTED BODY WAS NOW A CONDUIT FOR THE HORRORS OF THE CANCERVERSE TO PASS THROUGH INTO THE REAL WORLD. TO STOP ANY MORE MONSTERS FROM COMING THROUGH, RICH SACRIFICED HIMSELF BACK TO THE CANCERVERSE, WHERE HE FOUND AN OLD COMPANION: THE WORLDMIND! BITTER ABOUT BEING ABANDONED IN THE CANCERVERSE WHEN RICH ESCAPED THE FIRST TIME, THE WORLDMIND ADAPTED, BENDING THE CANCERVERSE TO HIS OWN WILL, AND PREPARED TO REPAY RICH IN FULL FOR LEAVING HIM BEHIND.

Writers
JEFF LOVENESS & RAMÓN PÉREZ

Artists
SCOTT HEPBURN & RAMÓN PÉREZ

Color Artist
IAN HERRING

Letterer
COMICRAFT'S ALBERT DESCHESNE

Cover Artists
DAN MORA & IAN HERRING

Assistant Editor
ALLISON STOCK

Editor
DEVIN LEWIS

Executive Editor
NICK LOWE

Editor in Chief
AXEL ALONSO

Chief Creative Officer
JOE QUESADA

President
DAN BUCKLEY

Executive Producer
ALAN FINE

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Sammy?

What's wrong?

...Novas gotta step up.

SAM, NO!

RRR

All right, time to go save Rich at the last second.

Am I Han Solo right now?

I'm totally Han Solo right now.

..RRIP!

CRAP.

I'm not Han Solo.

That armor. Is that--

Rich?! Hey. It's me. Let's just--

Richard is with me again.

Where he *belongs.*

Worldmind?

But I thought you... what happened to--

The *Cancerverse* changes everyone, Samuel.

Just ask Richard.

Ever since I got this helmet... I heard about *you.*

=kaff!=

Rich Rider.

The guy who always kept fighting. Who never gave up.

The best there *ever was.*

Prove it.

C'mon, Rich. I know you're in th--

Rich...

We're *Novas.*

We don't get to quit.

NYARRRGH!

YES!

That's it, Rich!

You got this!

WE GOT THIS!

...My mouth tastes like a toilet.

Yeah, that was gross.

Got any mouthwash?

Mints?

Anything?

No.

Bullullullt... *that* was so badass.

Oh, good, glad you thought my agony looked cool.

I'm gonna throw up at least three *more* times.

You should not have done that, Richard.

Oh, right.

Okay! Rip open a portal and get us out of here!

Can't.

What?

I just kinda...threw up that power.

So we're *stuck* here?

Sorry, kid.

This might be it.

Yeah, well...

I talked to some girls.

Sorry, Captain America.

Huh?

...Should I feel guilty about how *awesome* that felt?

Nah. I think everyone wants to punch Captain America at some point.

THRAACK

You *know* this is pointless, Richard.

World.

I'm sorry.

I'm *so* sorry.

But I'm here now. Let me make this right. Let's figure a way out of here.

I've only known death, Richard.

Millenia of death.

Xandar. The entire Nova Corps. *You.*

I felt every single one.

And it hurt... you cannot comprehend how much it hurt.

But *here*... we've *killed* death.

Now we'll never lose anyone *again.*

Look around.

This is life.

...No, World.

It's not.

You know it's not.

...You're right.

It's better.

And soon, your world will understand that.

Uh, Rich?

Didn't we just...

There's no dying *here*, kid. It's the last stop.

Yeah.

There's gotta be a way. How'd you get out last time?

Well, last time I had that Cosmic Cu--

...Heh. Some things never change.

Y'know, you're not exactly *my* Thanos...

...but this *STILL* counts.

Sam, grab the Cube!

Got it!

GO!

Dammit. It's still drained.

Well... can't you charge it up?

It ain't a *car battery,* kid. Last time I did that...it took everything I had.

The Nova Prime Force. Worldmind... *everything.*

I don't have that anymore. It's not enough.

I'm sorry, Sam... I ruined everything. I can't...

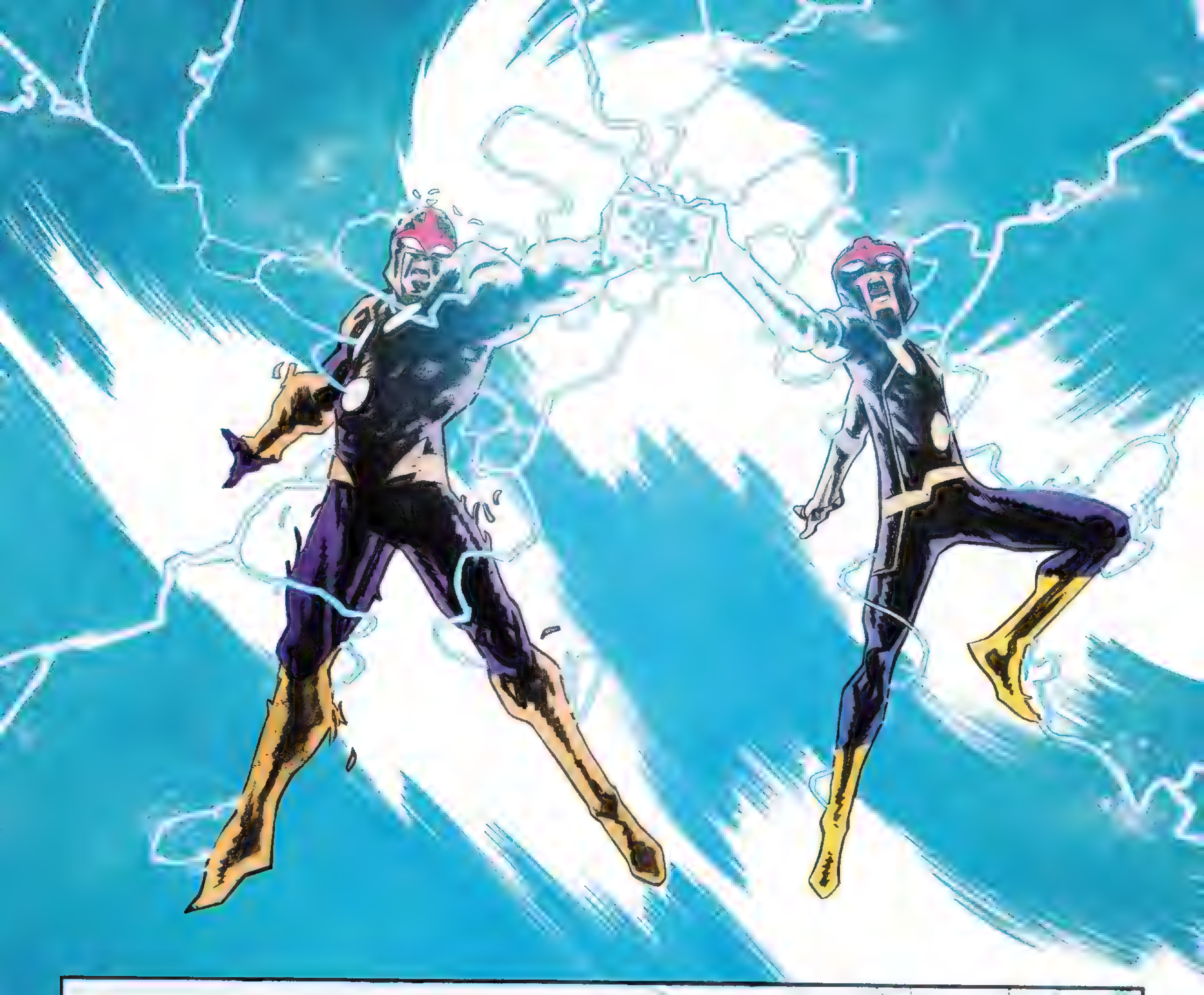
Well... good thing it's not all about you.

...Heh.

Richard. You know you can't escape that way. You don't have enough power.

You're right...I don't--

--but *we* do. *Goodbye,* World.



HANG ON, KID!

KOOM

PLAFF

...That felt bad.

Yeah. Reality-jumping hurts. You're gonna feel hungover for a few days.

What's a hangover feel like?

I hate how young you are.

And I *still* kicked your ass.

Oh is that what happened? Should we go agai--

Abuela, no!

¡DEMONIO!

KLONK

Sammy!

It's OKAY! He's fine now! He's fine.

...Right?

...Yeah.

Yeah, I think so.

Let's see how long that lasts.

ONE WEEK LATER.

Mom? Can I go yet?

Did you clean all the monster stuff?

This isn't fair!

I can't just do chores all day. I've got, like, people to save!

From what?

I dunno. Aliens? Magneto?

I love Magneto!

Do NOT say that!

Fix your garden.

Then fight Magneto.

Can I at least have a break?

...Ten minutes.

"They say sufferings are misfortunes," said Pierre. "But if I was asked, would I remain what I was before I was taken prisoner, or go through it all again, I should say, for God's sake, let me be a prisoner again."

PIFF
POP
POP POP
PLONK
POF
SPLOOSH
"We imagine that when we are thrown out of our usual ruts all is lost…
"But it is only then that what is new and good begins.
"While there is life, there is happiness.

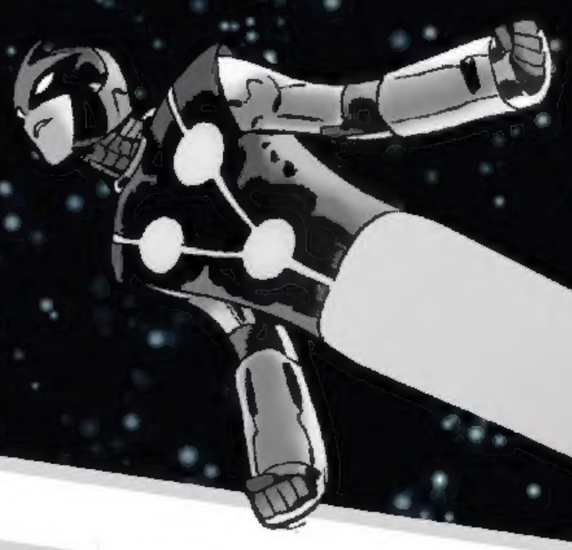
KRAKAA

KOOOOOM

"There is much, much before us."
--Leo Tolstoy, *War and Peace*

PEREZ 2017 FIN

THE END.



WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Hello, heroes! NOVA editor Devin Lewis reporting to you live and in print from the headquarters of the House of Ideas in the heart of New York City.

What an incredible adventure this book has been! For years, Sam Alexander and Richard Rider have both ranked among my favorite Marvel Characters—Sam, the gold-hearted goof who can't seem to get anything right, and Rich, the space-ace who killed Thanos the Mad Titan. Do comics get any better that these two paired up together?!

I know that you Mighty Marvelites love Sam and Rich, too (well, some of you only like one of 'em) and you made it known through your tweets and fan mail, so THANK YOU!

From the get-go the idea behind this book was to incorporate both Novas into each other's lives. We didn't want to leave either of these characters in the dust, and to you fans of Rich OR Sam, I hope we did ya proud! To fans of both Rich AND Sam, I hope we did ya proud, too!

But, heck, you don't want to hear from me. You want the brains of the operation – the talent! Let's see what they have to say about this most titanic tale in all of Marveldom…

Hey, everyone,

Thanks so much for sticking with this story. I'm so grateful to Devin, Allison, and the good people of Marvel for taking a shot on me with this. I couldn't have had a better partner than Ramón in crafting the story. He puts style, craft, and passion into everything he makes, and hopefully our paths cross again soon. Ian Herring and Scott Hepburn knocked every single page out of the park as well. I'm always so amazed at the talent on display in these books. I grew up consuming Marvel, and the fact that I get to play a small part in Marvel today is a surreal joy I don't deserve.

I love comics because they give you a world that understands you. Growing up, I felt lost. Aimless. Hopeless. Rejected. Alone... But so did my favorite Marvel characters.

They went through the same problems (albeit maybe with a few more interdimensional tentacle monsters and/or Phoenix-related problems), but most importantly, they showed me that we're so much stronger than our problems will ever be. We can always move forward. We can always change. We can find our hope again. We can step into life again. We can be kinder and better. I try to plunge that optimism into every story I write. These stories make my life better, and I hope they make your life better, too.

Also, read *War & Peace* while climbing Kilimanjaro. It'll change your life.

-Jeff Loveness

Marvel heroes cross generations, and it's definitely an exciting opportunity when you're presented with two heroes that cross that divide. Mix in two creators collaborating on a story of two mismatched, yet linked, heroes, and you have a recipe rife with fun. Working with Jeff on NOVA, being able to re-instill the breath of life into Rich, and flesh out the still novice Sam, was a wonderful adventure. We came at the project from different angles and met in the middle for a story that I am quite proud of. As Sam and Rich learned from each other, I can easily say the same for myself after collaborating with Jeff and crafting our story. The Nova team in its entirety was so supportive, and stood behind this book with all their hearts. My love and thanks to Devin, Allison, Jeff, and Ian. Our time on NOVA was a short one, but it was one of quality, and it will be missed but never forgotten.

-Ramón Pérez

It's been a brief time with Nova, but I can clearly see why the fans love the character. Rich is a classic hero. The way Jeff and Ramón took this concept and had Rich fall into a big-brother role for Sam kept me wanting more. The promise of adventures between these two, whether it be space- or terrestrial-based, has been a pleasure to be part of, and I hope this is not the last we see of this pairing. Thank you to Jeff, Ramón, and Scott for giving me a lovely book to add color to. Thank you to the amazing editorial team of Devin and Allison who kept us pushing forward and fought to make this the best series it could be. Last but not least, thank you to all the fans who have come out of the woodwork to offer their support as we added another chapter to Nova.

-Ian Herring

'Nuff said.
Over and out!
-Devin

ZONE